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ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM

2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

MAJORITY (202) 225-5074 FACSIMILE (202) 225-3974 MINORITY (202) 225-5051

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October 12, 2001

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Dr. Henning Schulte-Noelle Chairman of the Board of Management Mr. Herbert Hansmeyer Chairman, Allianz of America, Inc. c/o Fireman's Fund Insurance Company 777 San Marin Drive Novato, CA 94998

Dear Dr. Schulte-Noelle and Mr. Hansmeyer:

Pursuant to its authority under Rules X and XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Government Reform is conducting an oversight investigation of the implementation of the German and Austrian agreements with the United States regarding claims of Holocaust survivors and their heirs. Specifically, the Committee is focusing on the efforts of the International Commission on Holocaust Era Insurance Claims (ICHEIC), which was designated by the agreements to resolve outstanding Holocaust-era claims.

As one of the companies that has agreed to pursue resolution of insurance claims of Holocaust victims through ICHEIC, you possess information that is relevant to the Committee's investigation. Accordingly, the Committee requests that you provide the following information by October 19, 2001:

- 1. The estimated number of policies that Allianz or its subsidiaries issued to Holocaust victims.
- 2. The number of Holocaust victim policyholder names that Allianz has provided to ICHEIC and the dates the lists were provided.
- 3. The number of claims filed through ICHEIC that Allianz has approved.
- 4. The total amount of compensation awarded to victims and the range of the award amounts, from the lowest to the highest.
- 5. The number of claims filed through ICHEIC that Allianz has denied. Provide a copy of all denials issued to applicants in the United States in the previous six months.

Dr. Henning Schulte-Noelle Mr. Herbert Hansmeyer October 12, 2001 Page 2

- 6. The steps Allianz has taken to implement the rulings of the ICHEIC Chairman regarding the approval of claims.
- 7. Copies of any internal audits required of Allianz in accordance with item 4 of the ICHEIC Memorandum of Understanding.
- 8. An explanation of Allianz's position on extending the ICHEIC deadline until all member companies have published and disseminated an exhaustive list of policies held by victims to ensure that no viable claims are foreclosed.
- 9. A copy of the Arthur Andersen audit of Allianz that concluded, according to press accounts, that "completely reviewing" company's files would take 1529 person-years.¹

Thank you for your cooperation with this urgent request. If you have any questions about this matter, please contact Michelle Ash at (202) 225-5420.

Sincerely,

Dan Burton

Chairman

Henry A. Waxman

Ranking Minority Member

¹Holocaust Claims Still Going Unpaid, Los Angeles Times (July 9, 2001).